expressed their apprehension in July, 1996 about the safety of the product of Ordnance Factory, Chandrapur caused by the proposed blasting in opencast coal mine in Baranj block offered to NDIL in October, 1993. On receipt of the advice, the Ministry of Defence was informed that coal mining in about 40 coal mines with a total reserve of about 1000 million tonnes is going on within a radius of 25 Kms. from the Ordnance Factory, Chandrapur for production of 18 million tonnes of coal per year for many years and that Ministry of Coal was not advised over the past three decades of any adverse effect of such mining activity on the Ordnance Factory. Ministry of Defence was also requested to inform the Ministry of Coal on the law prohibiting mining operations within a radius of 25 Kms. from Ordnance Factories. The response from Ministry of Defence is awaited.

(d) to (f) Do not arise in view of answer given to paras (a) and (b).

Unauthorised Tea Gardens in West Bengal

2691. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1603 dated the August 16, 1995 and state:

(a) the check maintained in respect of quality of tea being produced by unauthorised tea gardens in various districts of Darjeeling, Uttar Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri and Govebehar;

(b) whether due to the inferior quality of tea produced by such gardens bring bad name for our country in the International Market; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check mushrooming of unauthorised tea gardens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) No complaint has been received by the Tea Board about production of inferior quality of tea in the gardens of West Bengal. All tea has to conform to specifications laid down in the prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

(c) Land and its use are regulated under laws made by the State Governments who enforce them and prevent misuse of land.

TWRF Scheme

2692. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the office of Regional Textile Commissioner, Amritsar vide D.O. No.8(331)/IND/Tex/ASR/ 169-70 dated June 17, 1993 regarding release of compensation to the victims of closed unit M/s Himachal Worsted Mills Ltd., Nalagarh under the TWRF scheme had stated that the compensation under the scheme will be released to these workers after the receipt of budget from the competent authority as the matter has been under consideration of the competent authority;

(b) if so, how the Government have stated in reply given to USQ No. 603 dated July 25, 1997 that the TWRF scheme has not been extended to the Government sector mills and the justification therefor;

(c) the action proposed against the officials found negligent in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to immediate release of payment to these affected workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India operates the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) to provide interim relief to workers rendered jobless due to permanent/partial closure of the mills. The scheme has not so far been extended to Central and State Textile PSUs and this matter is still under consideration.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of the above.

Promotion of Officer who is Under CBI Investigation

2693. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) attention of the Govt. is invited to a news-item captioned "CBI soft pedals Sensitive Case" appeared in the Indian Express dated the June 30, 1997 and state:

(b) the circumstances under the named officer was promoted and posed at priced place when the CBI investigation were underway and findings thereof not yet completed;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed under the circumstances; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or being taken for its proper investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) The Officer referred to in the news item captioned "CBI soft pedals sensitive case" that appeared in the Indian Express dated the June 30, 1997 has not been promoted yet and posted to any place in higher position.

In view of above, the question of fixing of responsibility and action against those responsible for the alleged promotion of the officer referred to in the news-item does not arise.

Fifth Pay Commission Report

2694. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5030 dated May 7, 1997 and state:

(a) the punitive action taken against M/s. Bahari Brothers and Nabhi Publications for printing and publishing of Fifth pay Commission Report without permission of the Government;